Incentives to Power Sector to attract Foreign and Private Capital

3791. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the current fiscal year Government have offered various incentives to power sector to attract foreign capitals as well as private sectors;

(b) if so, what amount of definite response the Government has received so far in conventional and non-conventional energy sectors to augment the present demand of electricity;

(c) whether any effort has been made by Government to increase allocation in non-conventional energy sectors which are directly beneficial to rural people; and

(d) if so, what are the financial allocation in R&D of non-conventional energy sector and what percentage of rural power demand is being met by non-conventional power sources and its details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) During the current fiscal year the following incentives have been offered to undertakings in the Power Sector set up for electricity generation, and distribution in India:

(i) The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.

(ii) A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profit and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.

(iii) The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a uniform rate of 5%.

These incentives are in addition to those offered under the policy already in vogue to encourage private sector participation in electricity generation, supply and distribution.

(b) Expressions of interest have been received for setting up of 46 Power Projects in the Conventional Sector aggregating of 25120.50 MW costing Rs. 76025.39 crores. Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources are encouraging private sector participation for generation of power/energy through Non-conventional Energy Sources. Financial/fiscal incentives in the form of soft term loan depreciation allowance, excise duty and central sales taxes exemption, relief in customs duty etc. are being provided to private sector promoters. Some of the private sector companies have come forward for taking up Wind Power Project.

(c) Yes, Sir. During the 8th Five Year Plan the allocation of Non-Conventional Energy Sector has been increased to Rs. 857 crores as against an outlay of Rs. 412.35 crores for the 7th Five Year Plan.

(d) Financial allocation for R&D in the Non-Conventional Energy Sector is made on year to year basis depending on requirement and priorities during that year. No demarcation has been made for R&D during the 8th Plan. Upto March, 1993 166.186 MW aggregated capacity has been installed based on various non-conventional energy sources such as wind, small hydel, bio mass based sources and solar photo voltaics. It forms a very small fraction of rural power demand.

Haryana's share in the power Generated from Bhakra

3792. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of Haryana is 54 per cent in the Satluj-Beas

waters stored in Bhakra reservoir (Govind Sagar);

(b) if so, what share of power Haryana is getting from the power generated in the reservoir's power house situated in the system;

(c) whether Haryana is getting only 39 per cent of the above power generated from this system;

(d) if so, whether case for actual share of Haryana from this power generating through Bhakra Power Generating System is pending with the Union Government; and

(e) if so, what is the cause of delay in deciding the matter and by when it is likely to be decided by the Government to mitigate grievances of shortage of power in Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Haryana's share of water in the Bhakra reservoir (Govind Sagar) ranges from 28.33 to 34.48 per cent during different periods of the year.

(b) and (c) Haryana is getting 39.5 per cent of power out of the share of erstwhile State of Punjab in the Bhakra Power Houses Complex.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view to answer to part (d) of the Question.

Actual PLF on the basis of recommendations of Rajdhyaksha Committee

3793. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as against an average of 58 per cent recommended by the Rajdhyaksha Committee the PLF during the first nine months of the year 1992-93 was just 54.8 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating what long time and time measures were envisaged at the recently held conference short of the Power Minister for improving the PLF during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) whether PLF of thermal plants in the Central and Private sector was higher than 54.8 per cent during 1992-93, if so, what was the PLF (in percentage) of Nuclear, Hydro under Central/State/Private Sectors as well as All India during the same period; and

(d) what concrete measures Government propose to take so that the SEBs with 1991-92 PLF below 40 per cent are improved by a minimum of three per cent per annum during the Eighth Plan by keeping target of improvement by 5 per cent of then SEBs PLF during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Committee on Power, known also as Rajdhyaksha Committee, has recommended that PLF of 58% should be considered as the norm for the system but this will vary from system to system. The Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations in the country during April, 1992—December, 1992 was 54.8%.

(b) and (d) In the Conference on Power attended by State Power Ministers held on 8th and 9th January, 1993, an action plan was adopted, inter-alia, to improve the Plant Load Factor of the State Electricity Boards. One of the decisions in the action plan is that the State Electricity Board below 40% Plant Load Factor in 1991-92 should improve their performance with minimum of 3% per annum during the 8th Plan. The action plan has to be implemented by the State Electricity Boards.